

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-20 and 34-56 are pending in the present application. By virtue of this response, claims 19-20, 34-41 and 47-56 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 2-18 and 42-46 are currently pending and are in condition for allowance.

With respect to all amendments and cancelled claims (and/or subject matter related thereto), Applicants have not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicants reserve the right to pursue prosecution of any such subject matter in future continuation and/or divisional application.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**Objection to the Claims**

The Examiner has noted that the numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR §1.126 due to two "claim 50" in the previously added claims. Cancellation of claims 19-20, 34-41 and 47-56 without prejudice or disclaimer has rendered this objection moot.

**Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC § 112**

Claims 47-56 stand rejected under U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. Applicant has cancelled claims 47-56 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 48, 50 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant has cancelled claims 48, 50 and 51 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 47-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicant has cancelled claims 47-56 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **441472000100**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: September 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
Carol M. Gruppi

Registration No.: 37341

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP  
755 Page Mill Road  
Palo Alto, California 94304  
(650) 813-5777